

National Heritage Areas Alliance Update

ANHA

ANHA Annual Meeting Update

The Board of Directors, members, guests and partners of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) will be convening in Washington, D.C. for ANHA's Annual Meeting and 10th Annual Congressional Reception. This event is a great opportunity for heritage development professionals to get together and discuss the latest advancements in the field. The ANHA Board of Directors Business Meeting will be held on Monday March 3rd at The Hilton on Embassy Row followed by the 10th Annual ANHA Congressional Reception that evening in Room 902 of The Hart Senate Office Building on Constitution Avenue, N.E. This year's annual meeting will once again feature The ANHA Program Roundtable on Tuesday morning, March 4th from 8:30am to 1:30pm at The Hilton on Embassy Row. The Roundtable will have presentations from National Heritage Area Executive Directors on the topic of "Heritage Development Finances: Looking Beyond the NPS Funds." ANHA members will be meeting with their respective Congressional delegations on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Participation in all of the week's events is a benefit of membership in ANHA. For information on fees to participate for non-ANHA members, please contact John W. Cosgrove at anha.cosgrove@comcast.net

National Heritage Areas Form International Partnerships, New Committee to Support Growing Relationships

One of the most innovative aspects of the National Heritage Areas model is its emphasis on partnerships. Now that approach to heritage development is going international, as Heritage Areas from across the United States create new and exciting partnerships with similar programs and initiatives in other countries.

One notable example of this movement is a recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) and the French regional nature parks system. Signed in June at the International Heritage Development Conference (IHDC) in Detroit and in October at the regional nature parks 40th Anniversary Convention in Saumur, France, the innovative agreement outlines the common activities and goals of the two bodies. The MOU has, in turn, led to the development of relationships between individual heritage areas and nature parks. The Augusta Canal National Heritage Area in Georgia, for instance, is now close to formalizing a partnership agreement with the Parc de la Montagne de Reims, a nature park in the Champagne region of northeastern France.

In an effort to make Dayton, OH the global center of aviation heritage activities, the National Aviation Heritage Area (NAHA) is also pursuing a wide range of international activities. One exciting initiative is a partnership with the city of Le Mans, France. During the summer of 2008, NAHA will work with the LeMans-Sarthe Centennial Committee to replicate Wilbur Wright's groundbreaking 1908 flights in and around that city. Additionally, representatives of the Heritage Area traveled to France in June, to represent NAHA at the prestigious Paris Air Show.

(continued on page 2)



Above: (r-l) Amanda Wright Lane (Great grand-Niece of the Wright Brothers), The Honorable Craig Stapleton (US Ambassador to France) and Marc Denieuex (Co-president of the LeMans/Sarthe/Wright Centennial Committee) at the Paris Air Show, June 2007. Photo Courtesy of the National Aviation Heritage Area.



Left: Representatives from the French regional nature park system presented at the International Heritage Development Conference this summer.

Legislative Update

On January 30, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a Full Committee markup on the following bills:

S. 128 (Allard, R-CO), A bill to amend the Cache La Poudre River Corridor Act to designate a new management entity, make certain technical and conforming amendments, and enhance private property protections. The bill was amended to make it similar to other recent National Heritage Area bills.

S. 2098 (Dorgan, D-ND), a bill to establish the Northern Plains Heritage Area in the State of North Dakota. The bill was amended to make the language consistent with previously passed Heritage Area bills.

Introduced on 2/7/2008,

H.R. 5279 (Cummings, D-MD) & S. 2604 (Mikulski, D-MD), A bill to establish the Baltimore National Heritage Area in the State of Maryland, and for other purposes.

For a complete list of other bills introduced in the 110th Congress related to National Heritage Areas, visit <http://www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/LEG/legislation1.pdf>

News *from* the Heritage Areas

Essex National Heritage Commission (ENHC) announces Grant Program

ENHC is now accepting applications for its 2008 Partnership Grant Program. For over 10 years, this grant program has provided matching funding to projects that encourage greater understanding, interpretation or enhancement of the unique historic, cultural and natural resources within the Essex National Heritage Area. The Partnership Grant Program is designed to provide "seed funding" that would foster partnerships and encourage collaboration among organizations and municipalities to preserve and promote the unique resources and heritage of Essex County. Since the program began in 1998, the ENHC has awarded a total of \$1.5 million to 266 matching grants that have generated an additional \$4.56 million in educational and historic preservation projects in the region. For more information about the Partnership Grant Program visit www.essexheritage.org.

Great Basin National Heritage Route Hires New Executive Director, Holds 5th Annual Old Shepherders' Party

Great Basin National Heritage Route is pleased to announce that Gregory Seymour has accepted the position of Executive Director. Mr. Seymour, an archaeologist by training, has worked extensively in historic preservation as research manager/archaeologist for the Las Vegas Springs Preserve. He has served as President of the Nevada Archaeological Association and sits on the Preserve Nevada Board of Directors. Completion of the management plan for the Heritage Route is his highest priority. He will be attending the ANHA annual meeting in Washington, DC in March.



Attendees enjoy a meal at the Old Shepherders' Party

The Heritage Route also recently co-sponsored the fifth annual Old Shepherders' Party in Baker, Nevada. Originally started by a local business, The Border Inn, the party is now a two day event, supported by both the Nevada and Utah State Humanities Councils – who gave grants to assist with the collection of oral histories. The party included traditional regional meals (lamb stew, sourdough pancakes and a Basque family dinner), open mike entertainment, old time country music and a Shepherders' Ball. The entire weekend was recorded by a Heritage Route board member Dave Tilford, who has been documenting the shepherd's histories for the last four years. The Old Shepherders' Party is an excellent example of how a partnership between private businesses and a heritage area can be beneficial to both sides.



Ribbon Cutting on I-77 bridge

Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway Opens New Section of Towpath Trail

One of the most exciting developments in 2007 along the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway was the opening of a new section of the Towpath Trail and Towpath Trail Bridge over I-77 in Bolivar, Ohio. The trail connects historic Fort Laurens to the new bridge and the Towpath Trail to Zoar Village. This new section of trail will bring together Tuscarawas County with Stark, Summit and Cuyahoga Counties in Northeast Ohio. An official dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, October 27, 2007 at Fort Laurens. Over 250 people attended, including Congressman Ralph Regula, Congressman Zach Space and representatives from the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio Historical Society and the Tuscarawas County Commissioners.



Representatives from Yuma Crossing NHA visit the Estero Del Yugo wetlands, in Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico.



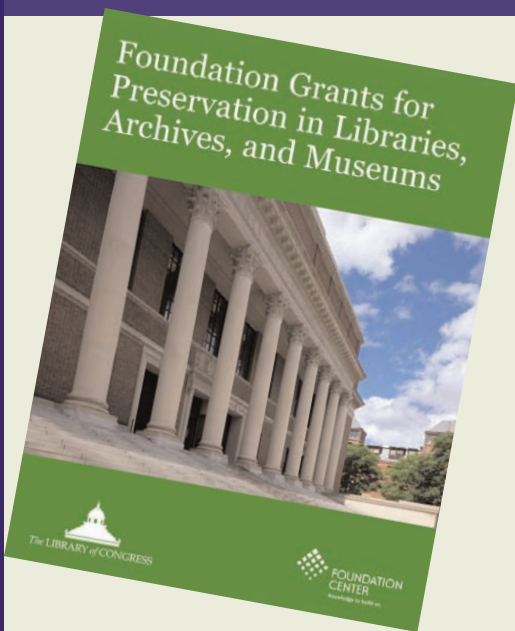
A stakeholder group, including Yuma Crossing NHA, tours the Lower Colorado River Limitrophe, a segment of the River that serves as the international boundary between the U.S. and Mexico.

International Partnerships (continued from page 1)

The South Carolina National Heritage Corridor is also partnering across borders, working with the country of Barbados on a year-long project to highlight the major historic and cultural connections shared by residents of the two areas. The initiative includes a traveling art exhibit featuring both South Carolinian and Barbadian artists as well as a wide array of public programming. Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area in Arizona has also developed an international relationship, working with communities in the Mexican states of Sinaloa and Sonora on a wide range of projects including preservation planning, environmental reclamation and joint promotion/marketing.

In an effort to better support these growing international partnerships, the ANHA has recently created a new sub-committee focused on international affairs. The committee will meet monthly to discuss ways to better understand, implement and promote heritage development on a global scale.

Publications and Resources



Library of Congress and the Foundation Center Issue New Guide to “Foundation Grants for Preservation in Libraries, Archives, and Museums”

“Foundation Grants for Preservation in Libraries, Archives, and Museums” is a collaborative project of the Library of Congress and the Foundation Center. The publication lists 1,725 grants of \$5,000 or more awarded by 474 foundations, from 2003 through 2007. It covers grants to public, academic, research, school, and special libraries, and to archives and museums for activities related to conservation and preservation. To view PDF version of report, go to <http://www.loc.gov/preserv/foundtn-grants.pdf>

New Book on Civic Tourism

Dan Shilling, past director of the Arizona Humanities Council, has written a new book, *Civic Tourism: The Poetry and Politics of Place*, the result of a three-year project in Prescott, Arizona. Civic tourism is an extension of cultural heritage tourism, ecotourism, geotourism, and other “place-based” models. The mission is to “reframe” tourism’s purpose, from an end to a means – from a growth goal to a tool that helps citizens preserve and enhance what they love about their place. Visit www.civictourism.org for more information.

Assistance

History Channel Announces the Launch of the 2008-2009 “Save Our History” Grant Program

Save Our History is a national history education and preservation initiative that raises awareness and support for preserving local heritage. The Grant Program provides funding to history organizations that partner with schools on a local community preservation project.

During the 2008-2009 school year, The History Channel will award grants of up to \$10,000 to historical organizations to fund hands-on, experiential educational projects that teach students about their local history and actively engage them in its preservation.

The deadline for applying is 6/6/2008. Visit www.saveourhistory.com for more information.



National Trust for Historic Preservation Accepting Nominations for 2008 National Preservation Honor Awards

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is now accepting nominations for the 2008 National Preservation Honor Awards. The annual awards recognize success in preserving, rehabilitating, restoring or interpreting America’s architectural and cultural heritage. Winners will be announced at the 2008 National Preservation Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Individuals who have been involved in an outstanding preservation project completed in the past three years, or those who know of a corporation, nonprofit organization, public agency, or individual who has helped save a part of America’s local or national heritage, are encouraged to submit a nomination. Nominations for this year must be postmarked by March 1, 2008 – categories include: The National Trust/HUD



Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation, The National Trust/Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Award for Federal Partnerships in Historic Preservation and the Trustees’ Award for Organizational Excellence among others. To download the nomination form, please visit http://www.nationaltrust.org/preservation_awards.

Department of Commerce to Offer Economic Development Awards

The Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce is pleased to announce the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Awards 2008 to recognize exemplary economic development accomplishments in your communities. The Awards 2008 nomination brochure is available for you to review and download on <http://www.eda.gov/PDF/EDAawardsbrochure2008.pdf>. Eligibility and evaluation criteria are discussed in the brochure.

EDA is pleased to announce the new nomination category of Excellence in Historic Preservation-led Strategies to Enhance Economic Development. Nominations submitted in this category would demonstrate significant use of regional historic assets (including heritage tourism) to advance innovative economic development strategies resulting in higher-skill, higher-wage jobs and substantial private capital investment. EDA is accepting nominations through April 16, 2008.

If you have any questions please contact Barbara Earman in EDA’s Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Division at 202-482-4521.

For more information on heritage areas, please visit our websites.

The Alliance Update is a partnership project of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas and the National Park Service National Heritage Areas Program.

Send your heritage area events and news to the editor by the 18th of the month for inclusion in the following month’s bulletin.

Please forward this bulletin to others who may be interested, and encourage them to join our e-bulletin address list.

- Reach the editor at Eleanor_Mahoney@contractor.nps.gov
- To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to the editor.

John W. Cosgrove
Executive Director
Alliance of National Heritage Areas
202.528.7549
anha.cosgrove@comcast.net
www.nationalheritageareas.org

Eleanor Mahoney
National Park Service
National Heritage Areas
202.354.2268
Eleanor_Mahoney@contractor.nps.gov
www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas/



Conferences, Workshops and Events

Designing the Parks Conference at University of Virginia

Sponsored by the University of Virginia, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and the National Park Service this two part conference will examine the design of buildings and



landscapes in regional, state, and national parks. Part

1: The History of

Park Planning and Design will take place in Charlottesville, Virginia from May 20-22, 2008. Part 2: The Present and Future of Park Planning and Design will take place in San Francisco, California this fall. The papers presented at the Charlottesville meeting will feature new research into the history of the planning and design of regional, state, and national parks. The deadline for submitting a paper is 2/16/2008. For more information visit <http://www.designingtheparks.com>.

Civic Tourism II: Defining and Animating Place Conference to be Held in October

The 2008 civic tourism conference will be held October 15-18, 2008, in the Blackstone Valley of Rhode Island. The conference sponsor is the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council's Sustainable Tourism Planning and Development Laboratory.

They are calling it "Civic Tourism II: Defining and Animating Place," and a hold-the-date website is active (www.civictourismconference2008.com), which will soon list the agenda. You can also sign up at the site to receive conference updates. For information about the conference, visit www.civictourism.org.

Oil Region National Heritage Area

With gasoline prices and energy supplies so much in the news these days, have you wondered when and where the world's first successful petroleum well began production? It was only 150 years ago, on August 27, 1859, that crude oil began to flow from a well along Oil Creek near Titusville, Pennsylvania. Today, the site where Edwin Drake and 'Uncle Billy Smith' drilled that well (which reached productive oil at the amazingly shallow depth of 69 feet) is treasured as a National Historic Landmark. Drake Well Museum, including a full-size replica of the initial engine house and a fully operating central power system on the grounds, is a centerpiece resource within the Oil Region National Heritage Area in rural northwestern Pennsylvania.



Cyclists enjoying the Allegheny Valley Trail near Belmar Bridge

To cope with the challenges of producing, transporting, refining, and marketing petroleum, entrepreneurs, inventors, photographers, and thousands of others seeking their fortunes came to the initial oil patch of Oil Creek valley and the surrounding boomtown communities, especially after the conclusion of the Civil War. In 1994, Governor Robert P. Casey designated the 708 square miles of Venango County plus the City of Titusville and Oil Creek Township in the eastern tip of Crawford County as the Pennsylvania Oil Heritage Region. The same boundaries were utilized in the 2004 legislation which designated the Oil Region National Heritage Area. The augmented ORNHA Management Plan and Environmental Assessment are awaiting signature by the Secretary of the U. S. Department of the Interior as this newsletter goes to print.



Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad coming around a bend at Petroleum Centre



Federal financial support has accelerated the implementation of projects such as the 2007 design and now the 2008 construction of the Oil Region Visitor Center inside Perry Street Train Station in Titusville, planning and coordination of the nationwide "OIL 150" celebration and public awareness campaign addressing a century and a half of oil history, a major new oil history documentary now underway with WQED - TV for public broadcasting affiliates, and creative installation of full-scale wooden derricks with accompanying permanent signage along I-80 and at community gateways.

These new projects continue the sound foundation laid by the Pennsylvania Oil Heritage Region, including significant historic preservation projects, co-funding the lengthening/linking of an excellent asphalt-paved bicycle trail system, republishing oil history books, major interpretive enhancements at museums and historic sites throughout the area, equipment and programmatic upgrades for heritage partners like the excursion railroad, an ever-growing collection of outdoor historical markers about natural gas and oil, traveling exhibits, scenic overlooks, and streetscape improvements.



Exterior of the National Transit Building, home of the Oil Region NHA offices, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places

The ORNHA is administered by the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism, an interesting amalgamated nonprofit corporation focused on increasing the prosperity and population of the Oil Region. Among the thematic websites maintained by the Oil Region Alliance are www.alleghenygeotrail.com, www.victorianregion.com, www.oil150.com, www.oilregion.org, www.oilheritage.com, and others used strictly for economic development recruiting. ORA's 20 employees are headquartered in downtown Oil City, within the National Transit Building, a former Standard Oil subsidiary whose office is now individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Oil Region Alliance is hosting the April 22-25, 2008 Board meeting of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas. You're invited to visit the Oil Region in April, or anytime, to discover for yourself why and how this area drew such prior residents and visitors as John Wilkes Booth, Andrew Carnegie, Charlie Chaplin, Ida Tarbell, John Vandergrift, Mark Twain, Coal Oil Johnny, and probably some of your own relatives!